

Announcement of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study to restore water quality in a portion of Accotink Creek that has an aquatic life use impairment.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announce the second Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting for the Accotink Creek Benthic TMDL study.

TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING:

Tuesday, August 18, 2009

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Rooms 2 and 3

12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035

MEETING DESCRIPTION: This is the second TAC meeting for this project. The purpose of the TAC will be to provide technical input and insight for the project, and to assist with stakeholder and public participation.

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: A portion of Accotink Creek has been identified as impaired on the Clean Water Act §303(d) list for not supporting the aquatic life use due to poor health in the benthic biological community. Virginia agencies are working together with EPA to identify the benthic stressors causing the aquatic life use impairment on Accotink Creek. The Accotink Creek watershed covers both the City of Fairfax and Fairfax County. Below is a description of the impaired portion of Accotink Creek that will be addressed in this study:

Stream Name	Watershed Location	Impairment	Area (miles)	Upstream Limit	Downstream Limit
Accotink Creek	Fairfax County Fairfax City	Aquatic Life Use Benthic Macroinvertebrates	7.35	Confluence of Accotink Creek with Calamo Branch	Start of the tidal waters of Accotink Bay

During the study, DEQ will develop a total maximum daily load, or a TMDL, for the impaired watershed. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, pollutant levels have to be reduced to the TMDL allocated amount.

HOW TO COMMENT: The public comment period on the materials presented at the TAC Meeting will extend from August 18, 2009 to September 17, 2009. DEQ accepts written comments by email, fax, or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person commenting, and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Please send all comments to the contact listed below.

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Name: Katie Conaway

Address: Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
13901 Crown Court, Woodbridge, VA 22193

Telephone: (703) 583-3804

E-mail: Katie.Conaway@deq.virginia.gov